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Serial No.:

10/604,212

Conf. No.:

1211

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Filing Date:

07/01/2003

Art Unit:

2812

Applicant:

Freeman et al.

Examiner:

Eckert, George C.

Title: BIPOLAR TRANSISTOR SELF-

Docket No.: FIS920040098US1

(IBMF-0016)

ALIGNMENT WITH RAISED

EXTRINSIC BASE EXTENSION AND METHODS OF FORMING SAME

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Response to Election/Restriction Requirement n 3 pages

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Election/Restriction requirement dated

November 24, 2004. Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-14, with traverse.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. By this Response, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-14, with traverse. Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

In the Restrict on Requirement, the Office asserts that the device of claim 1-14 could be made by a materially different process from that of Group II, claims 15-30. Applicants disagree with this conclusion. In particular, Applicants urge that other methods known in the art are incapable of producing a transistor as recited in claims 1-14.

In addition, Applicants submit that there are other, more significant, grounds that justify searching the two Groups together. Specifically, Applicants submit that the subject matter of Groups I and II is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of Group I invention would encompass a search for the subject matter of the Group II invention. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of Group I will encompass all of the subject matter of Group II, and thus a search for both Groups could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803 in which it is stated: "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examining by the Office. Reconsideration of the election/restriction requirement and rejoinder of claims 1-14 and 15-30 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement between Groups I and II. Should the Examiner require anything further from

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Applicants, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 2, 2004

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